



436712



## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 5

230 SOUTH DEARBORN ST.

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60604

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

27 APR 1988

CERTIFIED MAIL  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Don Pailen  
Corporation Counsel  
City of Detroit  
1010 City County Building  
Detroit, Michigan 48226

Re: Revere Copper & Brass Site  
Detroit, Michigan

Dear Sir:

On March 17, 1988 at approximately 9:40 a.m. Eastern Standard Time, the following statement was made to Mr. Alexander of your office over the telephone:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) intends to expend public funds to take action to abate a release or threatened release of hazardous substances, pollutants and other contaminants at the Revere Copper & Brass facility in Detroit, Michigan. This action is authorized by the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA), 42 U.S.C. Section 9601 et seq., as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986. Under CERCLA, and other laws, responsible parties may be liable for money expended by the government to take necessary corrective action at the site, including investigation, planning, cleanup and enforcement. Potentially Responsible Parties ("PRPs") include the current owner or operator of the site, the past owner and operator, and persons who generated or were involved in transport, treatment, or disposal of hazardous substances at the site.

Contaminants including polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) have been found on the site. Before the government undertakes the necessary response action at the site, PRPs are being offered the opportunity to perform voluntarily the required

work to abate any release of hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants from the site. If private party cleanup is not forthcoming and public funds are expended, PRPs may be liable for the costs incurred by the government. U.S. EPA plans to engage in an action to:

- (1) Restrict access to the site;
- (2) Survey the extent of contamination at the site;
- (3) Eliminate off-site migration of contaminants; and
- (4) Decontaminate the area of the site where drums and transformers were disposed to mitigate the release of hazardous substances at the site. This may include soil excavation and removal of the drums and transformers.

These actions are designed to protect the public health from a release or threat of release of hazardous substances, pollutants or contaminants. Under Section 107 of CERCLA, PRPs may be held responsible for all or part of the costs incurred by the U.S. EPA in undertaking this work. PRPs have the option, should they decide to exercise it, of initiating these activities if this can be accomplished in a timely manner. Due to the nature of this endangerment, immediate action will be required. U.S. EPA shall, at the direction of its On-Scene Coordinator, begin today at 1:30 p.m. Eastern Standard Time (EST) to abate the endangerment posed by the site. Therefore, a PRP must notify U.S. EPA today by 1:30 p.m. EST if it intends to undertake the work planned by U.S. EPA. If PRPs fail to notify U.S. EPA today by 1:30 p.m. EST, U.S. EPA will begin taking the necessary action at the site in lieu of private party action. Please contact Thomas J. Kenney, U.S. EPA, Office of Regional Counsel, 230 S. Dearborn St., Chicago, Illinois 60604, phone (312) 353-1027, to provide notice or if you have any questions. Do you understand? Do you have any questions?

This letter confirms the above oral notice and reiterates the responsibilities and rights of the City of Detroit under

CERCLA. Pursuant to Section 104 of CERCLA, U.S. EPA is authorized to undertake response actions deemed necessary to protect public health or welfare or the environment. U.S. EPA is also authorized to allow PRPs an opportunity to participate in such response actions.

U.S. EPA is currently undertaking an emergency response action at the Revere Copper & Brass site in Detroit, Michigan. U.S. EPA has determined that the City of Detroit, may be a PRP for the release or threat of release of hazardous substances, pollutants or contaminants from the site. As a PRP, the City of Detroit may be liable for the emergency response costs incurred by the government in taking corrective action at the site. U.S. EPA has afforded and will continue to afford the City of Detroit an opportunity to participate in the response action being conducted by the U.S. EPA.

If you have any questions concerning this matter please contact:

Thomas J. Kenney  
Office of Regional Counsel (5CS-TUB-3)  
United States Environmental  
Protection Agency  
230 South Dearborn Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60604

Telephone: (312) 353-1027

Sincerely,



Mary A. Gade  
Acting Associate Division Director,  
Office of Superfund

bcc: R. Schaefer  
D. Ullrich  
M. Elam  
L. Kyte  
T. Kenney  
D. Ballotti (5HR-11)  
P. Neithercut (5HGI-Mich)